

REPORT

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NO. OF PAGES. 3

**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

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DATE OF INFO: 11/11/2001

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Approved For Release 2009/08/14 : CIA-RDP82-00046R000200190002-7

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Efficiency of the Sniper Rifle and Scope

5. The sniper rifle was much more accurate than the carbine, even when the scope was not used. [redacted] with the scope, the sniper rifle would fire accurately at a range of 800 m. [redacted] EM would often fire the sniper rifle for qualification without the scope, instead of their assigned carbine, because of the considerable difference in accuracy between the two weapons.

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Marksmanship Training

6. Dry firing of all weapons was carried on quite extensively during daily training. In spite of extensive training, results in marksmanship were very poor. [redacted] the usual yearly range firing consisted of 28 rounds for the carbine and of 60 rounds for the PPSH SMG.

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Bayonet Training

7. [redacted] bayonet training was conducted only in the winter. There was a considerable amount of time spent in this type of training.
8. The fixed bayonet on the M-1944 carbine was considered a hindrance by the men of the 290th Gds. Rifle Regt. To balance the weapon during firing, the bayonet had to be extended out in the fixed position.

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Types of Small Arms Ammunition

9. [redacted] small arms ammunition which was available for carbines:

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Type	Description	Use
API	Black tip with a 1-mm. red stripe below the black	To penetrate light armor, start fires in gas tanks, etc.
Tracer	Green tip	To mark trajectory and targets
AP	Black tip	To penetrate light armor
Heavy	Yellow tip (the round in the case was heavier than other rounds, as the base of the projectile was oval rather than flat)	Unknown
Explosive	Red tip	Unknown
Light (ball)	[redacted]	

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Issuance of Ammunition

10. Ammunition was issued to the troops only under the following circumstances:
- a. Prior to assuming a post for guard duty a soldier with a carbine received 15 rounds from his first sergeant, and a soldier armed with a PPSH submachine gun received 140 to 148 rounds,

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depending upon how many he was able to load into two drums. This ammunition was returned to the first sergeant upon his relief from the guard post.

- b. During movement by truck or rail 30 rounds were issued to men with carbines and two complete drum loads to submachine gunners;

[redacted] every weapon was kept loaded during such movements and also during alerts.

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- c. During training marches DP light machine gunners were issued enough ammunition to load completely two drums. No other weapons received any ammunition.

Machine Guns and Ammunition

11. [redacted] The sniper rifle and all 7.62-mm. machine guns had the same type of ammunition as the carbine. Ammunition used in training for marksmanship firing was unsorted, and almost all types could be used at one time.

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12. The machine guns [redacted] emplaced on the border were all on the forward slope.

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13. [redacted] information on how targets were engaged under conditions of poor visibility,

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[redacted] For hand-carried and mounted machine guns the methods were as follows:

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- a. Machine gun mounts had a semicircular traverse plate which had a number of perforations along the circumference edge and two pins. The weapon was to be adjusted on the target in daylight and a pin placed in the hole corresponding to the final adjustment. At night or under poor visibility the gun was traversed until the pin was touched, and then the receiver was locked into position with the locking clamps. Range from the daylight adjustment was estimated for the elevation, and the gun was then fired.
- b. For hand-carried machine guns with a bipod, the method involved the use of a forked stick which was to be driven into the ground after a daylight sight or adjustment had been made; and the gun barrel rested in a crotch, with a spot for the butt marked on the ground with a rock.

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